

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 EUR-12 COME-00  
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-----070277 290142Z /65

R 271519Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 210  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USUN

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: EFIN,  
SUBJECT: FAO BUDGET: GENEVA GROUP MEETNG

A) ROME 15608 B) STATE 20514 C) ROME 1446

1. ROME GENEVA GROUP MET JAN 26 AND REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS  
IN PAST YEAR RELATING TO EFFORTS LED BY CANADA AND U.S.  
TO A DEVELOP AN ANALYTICAL TOOL FOR EXAMINING U.N.  
SPECIALIZED AGENCY BUDGETS.

2. IN BRIEF DISCUSSION FOLLOWING PRESENTATION ON THIS  
SUBJECT BY US DEP. REP., GENERAL THRUST OF COMMENTS WAS  
SUPPORTIVE OF RESERVATIONS ABOUT STANDARD ANALYTICAL  
FRAMEWORK WHICH ROME GENEVA GROUP HAD EXPRESSED LAST  
YEAR (REF A). FRG REP LIEBER, WHO HAD STUDIED  
FURTH (WHO) REACTIONS TO STANDARD ANALYTICAL FRAME-  
WORK SUGGESTED THAT PROPOSALS BY FURTH IN LAST PAGE  
OF HIS STATEMENT BE STUDIED TO SEE IF THEY COULD BE  
ADAPTED FOR GENEVA GROUP ROME EFFORTS. USREP  
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SUGGESTED THAT IF ROME GENEVA GROUP COULD DEVELOP  
FURTHER IDEAS RELATNG TO ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK OR  
ADAPTATION OF IT, IT WULD BE USEFUL FOR A  
REPRESENTATIVE OF ROME GROUP TO ATTEND EXPERTS  
MEETING IN GNEVA AT END OF FEBRUARY.

3.ROME GENEVA GROUP AGREED TO CONSITUTE ITSELF

2 SUB-COMMITTEES, ONE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET AND THE OTHER ON THE IMPACT ON THE BUDGET OF FAO'S GROWING EMPHASIS ON FIEDL PROGRAMS. CORE GROUP OF RIST SUB-COMMITTWW WOULD CONSIST OF CANADA, FRG, AUSTRALIA, ITALY AND U.S. AND CORE GROUP OF SECOND SUB-COMMITTEE WOULD CONSIST OF NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, U.K., FRANCE AND JAPAN.

4. AGREED SUBJECTS OF PRIORITY CONCERN FOR EACH GROUP WERE:

SUB-COMMITTEE ONE:

- (1) ADAPTATION OF STANDARD ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK:
- (2) EXAMINATION OF FAO MEHTOD OF ESTIMATING IMPACT OF INFLATION;
- (3) CONSIDERATION OF A GENEVA GROUP EFFORT TO ESTABLISH AN AGREED RECOMMENDED PERCENTAGE OF REAL COST GROWTH FOR BUDGET OF NEXT BIENNIUM.

SUB-COMMITTEE TWO:

- (1) FAO METHOD OF CALCULATING OVERHEAD COSTS ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BUDGETS:
- (2) IMPACT OF COUNTRY REPS. AND REGIONAL OFFICES ON NEXT BUDGET AND POSSIBLE GENEVA GROUP RECEOMMENDATIONS ON LIMITING THIS IMPACT:
- (3) DEFINITIONOF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ADAPTA-TION TO TCP FOR PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIGHTER CRITERIA.

5. COMMENT: THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SUB-COMMITTEES WILL BE OPEN TO PARTICIAPATION BY GENEVA GROUP OBSERVERS AND MEMEBERS NOT DESIGNATED AS CORE GROUP, BUT IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT CORE GROUP WILL HAVE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR PURSUING ABOVE-MENTIONED ISSUES ROUGHLY INORDER OF PRIORITY INDICATED. DEPARTMENT'S PAPER ON APPROACH TO FAO 1980-81 BUDGET WAS USEFUL BACKGROUND FOR THIS INITIAL EFFORT. WE ANTICIAPATE ADDING FURTHER ISSUES TO WORK ON SUB-COMMITTEES AS WE PROGRESS, BUT IN VIEW OF PROTESTATIONS BY MOST MEMBERS THAT THEIR OFFICES ARE UNDERMANNED, WE DID NOT WISH TO OVERLOAD SUB-COMMITTEES AT OUTSET. WULD WELCOME ANY FURTHER BACKGROUND DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE ON QUESTION OF ROLE OF ADG WEST AT UNDP WORKING GROUP ON OVERHEAD COSTS. IT IS CLEAR THAT FAO IS UNHAPPY WITH OUTCOME OF WORKING GROUP'S CONSIDERATIONS AND "REQUEST" REF.B). LEVIED ON THEM BY THAT GROUP. WE ANTICIAPTE THAT DG MAY WISH TO FIGHT THIS ISSUE WITH SOME ENERGY AND TO LAY BASE FOR ARGUMENT THAT FAO REGULAR BUDGET WILL NEED TO BE INCREASED TO HANDLE UNCOMPENSATED

OVERHEAD COSTS OF GROWING LOAD OF EXTRA-BUDGETARY  
PROJECT WORK. SINCE ONLY ORGANIZATIONAL BACKING HE  
CAN OBTAIN FOR THIS EFFORT DURING MOST OF 1978 WILL  
BE FROM PROGRAM AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, WE MUST  
EXPECT THIS ISSUE TO BE DISCUSSED THERE AND BE READY FOR  
IT.GARDNER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BUDGETS, MEETINGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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